

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An energy efficient elevator system comprising:
an alternating current power supply grid;
at least one ~~one or more~~ variable speed drive[[s]] for driving an elevator [[DC]] motor[[s]];
at least one connector ~~one or more contactors~~ connected between the alternating current power supply grid and the at least one variable speed drive[[s]], and capable of ~~connecting or~~ selectively disconnecting the at least one variable speed drive[[s]] from the alternating current power supply grid; and
a control system connected to the alternating current power supply grid, the control system having an output device connected to the at least one connector ~~contactor(s)~~ and controlling the at least one connector ~~contactors~~ to selectively connect or ~~disconnect~~ the at least one variable speed drive[[s]] from the alternating current power supply grid.
2. (Original) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1 comprising a three phase AC power source.
3. (Currently Amended) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1 wherein:
the at least one variable speed drive[[s]] comprises an isolation transformer having a line side, at least one ~~one or more~~ silicon controlled rectifier[[s]], a control circuit, and a ripple filter; and, wherein the at least one connector ~~is~~ ~~contactor(s)~~ are connected to the line side of the isolation transformer of the at least one variable speed drive[[s]].
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) An energy efficient elevator system comprising:
 - an alternating current power supply grid;
 - at least one ~~one or more~~ variable speed drive~~[[s]]~~ for driving an elevator ~~[[DC]]~~ motor~~[[s]]~~;
 - at least one connector ~~one or more solid-state devices~~ connected between the alternating current power supply grid and the at least one variable speed drive~~[[s]]~~, and capable of ~~connecting or~~ disconnecting the at least one variable speed drive~~[[s]]~~ from the alternating current power supply grid for an interval of time; and
 - a control system connected to the alternating current power supply grid, the control system having an output device connected to the at least one connector ~~solid-state device(s)~~ and controlling the at least one connector ~~solid-state device(s)~~ to ~~connect or~~ disconnect the at least one variable speed drive~~[[s]]~~ from the alternating current power supply grid for the interval of time.
6. (Currently Amended) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5 wherein:
 - the at least one connector ~~solid-state device(s)~~ comprises a gate; and
 - the control system output device controls ~~eloses~~ the gate to connect the at least one variable speed drive~~[[s]]~~ to the alternating current power supply grid and controls ~~opens~~ the gate to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive~~[[s]]~~ from the alternating current power supply grid.
7. (Currently Amended) The energy efficient elevator system of claim ~~[[1 or]]~~ 5 wherein the control system controls the at least one connector ~~contaacter(s)~~ to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive~~(s)~~ ~~that are when the at least one variable speed drive is idle~~ for at least 60 seconds and ~~connect variable speed drive(s) that are or become active.~~

8. (Cancelled)
9. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the connector is a contactor.
10. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the connector is a solid state device.
11. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 10, wherein the solid state device is a switch.
12. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable speed drive is disconnected from all power sources.
13. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 12, wherein the at least one variable speed drive is disconnected from all power sources for a predetermined interval of time.
14. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the control system controls the at least one connector to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive when the at least one variable speed drive is idle for at least 60 seconds.
15. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5, wherein the interval of time is one of a plurality of intervals of time within a twenty-four hour period.
16. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5, wherein the control system disconnects the at least one connector after a period of system inactivity.
17. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 16, wherein the control system reconnects the at least one connector upon user initiation.
18. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of Claim 16, wherein the control system reconnects the at least one connector after the duration of the interval of time.
19. (New) An energy efficient elevator system comprising:

an alternating current power supply grid;

at least one variable speed drive for driving an elevator motor;

at least one connector connected between the alternating current power supply grid and the at least one variable speed drive, and capable of disconnecting the at least one variable speed drive from all sources of power; and

a control system connected to the alternating current power supply grid, the control system having an output device connected to the at least one connector and controlling the at least one connector to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from all sources of power.

20. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 18, wherein the control system is configured to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from all sources of power when the at least one variable speed drive is idle for a predetermined period of time.
21. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 19, wherein the predetermined period of time is at least 60 seconds.
22. (New) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 18, wherein the variable speed drive is disconnected from the alternating current power supply grid and a direct current power supply.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

A New Sheet of drawings is appended to this amendment to provide a pictorial representation of an embodiment of the present invention described and claimed, but not shown. A Replacement Sheet of drawings is appended to this amendment to provide a more detailed view of Fig. 1 as described in the specification.